

### Amendments To The Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for facilitating the administration of a subsidiary account within a database contained within a host computer comprising the steps of:

receiving, at said host computer, a request ~~for~~ to establish a subsidiary account, said ~~parent request~~ identifying a parent account, said parent account being a financial account ~~associated with the parent, the~~ said parent account having a parent spending power;

establishing, at said host computer, a said subsidiary account, said subsidiary account having a subsidiary spending capacity linked to said parent spending power, wherein said subsidiary account is configured to consume at least part of said spending capacity to facilitate payment for a transaction;

reducing, at said host computer, said parent spending power by an amount less than said subsidiary spending capacity; and

establishing, at said host computer, at least one spending limit configured to affect said spending capacity.

2. (Currently Amended) The computer-implemented method according to claim 1, wherein establishing said spending limit ~~is configured for modifying a spending capacity so as to affect~~ is based upon a maximum transaction amount allowed per transaction.

3. (Currently Amended) The computer-implemented method according to claim 1, wherein establishing said spending limit ~~is configured for modifying a spending capacity so as to affect~~ is based upon a maximum transaction amount allowed per day.

4. (Currently Amended) The computer-implemented method according to claim 1, wherein establishing said spending limit ~~is configured for modifying a spending capacity so as to affect~~ is based upon a maximum transaction amount allowed during a predetermined time period.

5. (Currently Amended) The computer-implemented method according to claim 1, wherein establishing said spending limit ~~is configured for modifying a spending capacity so as to affect~~ is based upon a maximum transaction amount allowed at a particular merchant.

6. (Currently Amended) The computer-implemented method according to claim 1, wherein establishing said spending limit ~~is configured for modifying a spending capacity so as to affect~~ is based upon a maximum transaction amount allowed at a particular chain of merchants.

7. (Currently Amended) The computer-implemented method according to claim 1, wherein establishing said spending limit ~~is configured for modifying a spending capacity so as to affect~~ is based upon a maximum transaction amount allowed at a particular industry type.

8. (Currently Amended) The computer-implemented method according to claim 1, wherein establishing said spending limit ~~is configured for modifying a spending capacity so as to affect~~ is based upon a maximum transaction amount allowed in accordance with a predetermined rate of change over time.

9. (Currently Amended) The computer-implemented method according to claim 1, wherein receiving said request ~~is received~~ comprises:

receiving said request via a means for communication selected from the group consisting of a telephone, a pager, a computer, a digital communications device, a television, a personal digital assistant, and a facsimile machine.

10. (Currently Amended) The computer-implemented method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

monitoring spending activity facilitated by at least one of a said parent card account and ~~one or more~~ said subsidiary card accounts account; and

modifying at least one of said parent spending power and said subsidiary spending capacity based at least in part on said spending activity.

11. (Currently Amended) A system for administering a subsidiary account ~~having a subsidiary spending capacity;~~ within a computing system, the said computer system comprising:

an account administrator module in communication with a transaction administrator module;

a settler module; and

a statement generator module;

wherein the said account administrator module is configured to:

receive a request from a parent having a parent account, and to

facilitate the an establishment of one or more subsidiary ~~account~~ accounts,

said subsidiary accounts including a subsidiary spending capacity, to

establish at least one spending limit in said parent account, and configured

to

affect said spending limit by an amount less than said subsidiary spending

capacity,

wherein the said transaction administrator module is configured to facilitate transactions ~~consuming~~ decreasing said subsidiary spending capacity,

wherein the said settler module is configured to facilitate providing a settling payment to a merchant, and

wherein the said statement generator module is configured to facilitate generating a parent account statement.

12. (New) A machine-readable medium having stored thereon a plurality of instructions, said plurality of instructions when executed by a processor, cause said processor to perform a method comprising the steps of:

receiving a request to establish a subsidiary account, said request identifying a parent account, said parent account being a financial account, said parent account having a parent spending power;

establishing said subsidiary account, said subsidiary account having a subsidiary spending capacity linked to said parent spending power, wherein said subsidiary account is configured to consume at least part of said spending capacity to facilitate payment for a transaction;

reducing said parent spending power by an amount less than said subsidiary spending capacity; and

establishing at least one spending limit configured to affect said spending capacity.

13. (New) The machine-readable medium according to claim 12, wherein said step of establishing said spending limit is based upon a maximum transaction amount allowed per transaction.

14. (New) The machine-readable medium according to claim 12, wherein said step of establishing said spending limit is based upon a maximum transaction amount allowed per day.

15. (New) The machine-readable medium according to claim 12, wherein said step of establishing said spending limit is based upon a maximum transaction amount allowed during a predetermined time period.

16. (New) The machine-readable medium according to claim 12, wherein said step of establishing said spending limit is based upon a maximum transaction amount allowed at a particular merchant.

17. (New) The machine-readable medium according to claim 12, wherein said step of establishing said spending limit is based upon a maximum transaction amount allowed at a particular chain of merchants.

18. (New) The machine-readable medium according to claim 12, wherein said step of establishing said spending limit is based upon a maximum transaction amount allowed at a particular industry type.

19. (New) The machine-readable medium according to claim 12, wherein said step of establishing said spending limit is based upon a maximum transaction amount allowed in accordance with a predetermined rate of change over time.

20. (New) The machine-readable medium according to claim 12, wherein said step of receiving said request comprises:

receiving said request via a means for communication selected from the group consisting of a telephone, a pager, a computer, a digital communications device, a television, a personal digital assistant, and a facsimile machine.

21. (New) The machine-readable medium according to claim 12, wherein the method further comprises the steps of:

monitoring spending activity facilitated by at least one of said parent account and said subsidiary account; and

modifying at least one of said parent spending power and said subsidiary spending capacity based at least in part on said spending activity.